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PATENT
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the music". Ryan indeed permits recording - but not if and only if the test signature matches the authorized signature as claimed. Rather, Ryan *always* permits recording regardless of signature match: "The Conditional Play System does not attempt to prevent CD-recorders from copying the data on protected CDs. Instead, it is a method by which CD-players can determine whether a particular CD is a legitimate original or an illicit copy. If legitimate, the player plays the CD normally. If not, the player shuts down..." Ryan, col. 2, lines 25-30. That is, Ryan does not use a signature match to prevent unauthorized recording but only to prevent playing illicit CDs.

With a complete understanding of Ryan in mind, it would appear that the present rejections should be withdrawn and the application passed to issue. The Examiner is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned at (619) 338-8075 for any reason which would advance the instant application to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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